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(5) THE MADRAS PRESERVATION OF PRIVATE FORESTS BILL, 1949 (L.A. BILL NO. 30 OF 1949).

3–15 p.m. THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" Sir, I move—

' *that the Madras Preservation of Private Forests Bill*[a], 1949 (*L.A. Bill No.* 30 *of* 1949), *as passed by the Legislative Assembly, be taken into consideration at once.*'

This is a Bill that has been brought forward to replace the provisions of Ordinance VIII of 1949."

THE DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—" Motion moved—

' that the Madras Preservation of Private Forests Bill, 1949 (L.A. Bill No. 30 of 1949), as passed by the Legislative Assembly, by taken into consideration at once '."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Sir, I have a few doubts now which, I hope, the Hon. Minister in charge of Land Revenue will clear. Under clause 1 (3) it is stated that this Act shall come into force at once and remain in force up to and inclusive of the 2nd December 1950. This clause would have been all right if this applied only to forests situated in estates as defined in the Madras Estates Land Act of 1908 in the Province of Madras. But this Act applies to private forests in the districts of Malabar and South Kanara as well as to private forests situated in other areas in the Province. I do not know, Sir, why its effect should be restricted to a particular period especially with regard to the other areas. I can very well understand the provision referring to forests situated in the estates because when the Estates Abolition Act comes into force, all these estates will form part of the Government forests, but in respect of other areas there is no need to restrict the period of operation. I am one of those who supported this Bill and I do not see why the application of these wholesome provisions should be restricted in the case of forests other than those coming under the Madras Estates Land Act, 1908."

* THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" Sir, the Bill applies to private forests in Malabar and South Kanara districts, in estates as defined in the Madras Estates Land Act, 1908, and to other areas. My hon. Friend's objection is why we have extended it to other areas. The idea is to prevent the indiscriminate destruction of forests . . ."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" My objection is not to the extension of the provisions of this Bill to other areas. I want to know why its enforcement should be restricted to a particular period in respect of other private forests also. I can understand the restriction with respect to the other estates as they are going to form part of the Government forests shortly."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" This is only a temporary measure, Sir. The idea is to bring in permanent legislation later."

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a Printed as Appendix IX on pages 698–702 infra.

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* THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" The object of this Bill is that once all the estates are taken over by the Government, the forests in those estates will be governed by the existing Forest Act applicable to any other area in the Province. It has been mentioned by my Hon. Colleague, the Minister for Law, that this is only a temporary measure, and after a certain period, it is intended to have a uniform Act applicable to all the forests in the Province. When the forests in the estates come under Government they will be governed by the existing Forest Laws. Now there are different sets of rules for different areas. It is, therefore, proposed to have a uniform set of rules for all areas to guide us in the matter of preservation and exploitation of forests."

THE DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—" The question is—

' that the Madras Preservation of Private Forests Bill, 1949 (L.A. Bill No. 30 of 1949), as passed by the Legislative Assembly, be taken into consideration at once '."

The motion was carried.

Clauses 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15 were put and carried.

Clause 1 and the Preamble were put and carried.

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" Sir, I move—

' *that the Madras Preservation of Private Forests Bill*, 1949 (*L.A. Bill No.* 30 *of* 1949), *be passed into law* '."

THE DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—" The question is—

' that the Madras Preservation of Private Forests Bill, 1949 (L.A. Bill No. 30 of 1949), be passed into law '."

The motion was carried and the Bill was passed into law.

(6) THE MADRAS JUTE GOODS CONTROL BILL, 1949 (L.A. BILL NO. 31 OF 1949).

* THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Sir, I move—

' *that the Madras Jute Goods Control Bill*, 1949 (*L.A. Bill No.* 31 *of* 1949), *as passed by the Legislative Assembly, be taken into consideration at once.*'

This relates to the last of the Ordinances which remain to be passed into law. Sir, this Ordinance was issued on the 5th November 1949, though the Assembly was to meet on 7th November. The reasons for the issue of the Ordinance in such circumstances were the devaluation of the sterling and certain consequential action taken by the Government of Pakistan and also the conclusion of a contract entered into by the Government of India with the

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a Printed as Appendix X on pages 702 and 703 infra.